

Family Liaison Office

Direct Communication Project

Paper No. 21

Overseas Employment Information for Teachers

The following list of organizations and information has been compiled to help Foreign Service family members who are interested in teaching careers overseas. In addition to contacting the organizations mentioned in this handout, you may wish to contact directly the schools located in the city or country where you will be assigned.

Overseas Schools Assisted by the Department of State

The American-sponsored overseas schools assisted by the Department of State through the Office of Overseas Schools (A/OPR/OS) are nonprofit, nondenominational, independent schools, many of which were established on a cooperative basis by American citizens living overseas. During 1995-96, 190 schools received grant assistance and technical support from A/OPR/OS. Because they are private institutions, these schools hire their own staffs. Many of them hire Foreign Service spouses. A/OPR/OS updates and publishes annually a directory of these schools. It has information on organizations involved in the recruitment of teachers and administrators for international schools throughout the world. A/OPR/OS also has information on U.S. universities offering teacher certification and professional development programs at overseas locations.

Office of Overseas Schools
Room 245, SA-29
Department of State
Washington, DC 20522-2902
Tel. 703-875-7939
Fax: 703-875-7979

Foreign Affairs Spouses Teacher Training (FAST-TRAIN)

George Mason University, Arlington campus, offers the FAST-TRAIN program for people who have a bachelor's degree, want a teaching credential, and are interested in teaching overseas. Upon completion of six education courses taken over a 1-year period and successful completion of the National Teachers exam, participants receive a provisional Virginia teaching certificate at the PK-8 level. Foreign Service spouses have found this certificate useful in obtaining teaching positions in developing nations. For information, contact the Office of Overseas Schools or George Mason University:

Dr. Jack Levy
FAST-TRAIN Program
Graduate School of Education
George Mason University
Fairfax, VA 22230-4444
Tel. 703-993-3689/88
Fax: 703-993-3336

Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS)

The Department of Defense recruits teachers for schools at military bases overseas. Contact DoDDS before arrival at post if possible, as applications for overseas positions are considered in the U.S.

DoDDS Personnel Center
Recruitment Unit
4040 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203-1634
Tel. 703-696-3269, ext. 142
Fax: 703-696-2697

Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program

The Fulbright Program offers teachers an opportunity to switch positions with teachers overseas. Applicants must be currently teaching, be a U.S. citizen, and have 3 years full-time teaching experience.

Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program
600 Maryland Avenue SW
Room 140
Washington, DC 20024
Tel. 800-726-0479
Fax: 202-401-7203
Internet: fulbright@grad.usda.gov

Peace Corps

The Peace Corps uses volunteer teachers for elementary, secondary, normal and vocational schools, and universities. Some teaching experience is required. Applications must be made from the United States.

Recruiting Office
U.S. Peace Corps
1400 Wilson Blvd., Suite 400
Arlington, VA 22209
Tel. 1-800-424-8580
Fax: 703-235-9189

Institute of International Education

The library at the Institute of International Education posts listings of overseas teaching positions. This information is not available by phone, fax, or mail, but may be picked up in person if you are in New York.

Institute of International Education
809 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017
Tel. 212-883-8200
Fax: 212-984-5452

International Schools Services (ISS)

ISS publishes a directory and maintains a placement service for many overseas schools.

International Schools Services
15 Roszel Road
Princeton, NJ 08543
Tel. 609-452-0990
Fax: 609-452-2690
website: <http://www.iss.edu>

National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)

Contact NAIS about teaching opportunities at overseas independent schools that are members of this U.S.-based group.

National Association of Independent Schools
1620 L Street NW
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20036-5605
Tel. 202-973-9732
Fax: 202-973-9790

Tutoring/Special Education

Another option for Foreign Service spouses is to provide individual or group tutoring. Many students enrolled in non-American schools or in small high schools that cannot offer a full range of courses are tutored or attend classes outside school hours. The post's education allowance can supplement the instruction allowance to pay for these programs. The supplementary instruction allowance can also be used to set up Advanced Placement courses. Families may pool their allowances to pay a tutor to teach a course.

Families with learning disabled children at posts where the schools do not offer programs to meet the needs of their children often require the services of a teacher/tutor to carry out more comprehensive programs.

Special educational allowances are available to pay these tutors. The M/FLO Family Member Skills Bank provides families with information about tutors and special education teachers.

To increase employment options, spouses going overseas may want to consider acquiring the necessary training to teach/tutor children with learning disabilities. The Lab School of Washington offers a training program for learning disabled (LD) tutoring. This annual program starts in the fall.

The Lab School of Washington
4759 Reservoir Road NW
Washington, DC 20007
Tel.: 202-965-6600
Fax: 202-965-5106

Resources

Chronicle of Higher Education, a weekly newspaper with a large classified section advertising teaching positions overseas, published by:

The Chronicle of Higher Education
1255 23rd Street NW
Washington, DC 20037

Directory of Resources for International Cultural and Educational Exchanges:

Directory Staff (E/ASA), Room 349
U.S. Information Agency
201 Fourth Street SW
Washington, DC 20547
Att: Brandon Davison
Tel. 202-619-5434
Fax: 202-401-1433

Schools Abroad of Interest to Americans, published by:

Porter Sargent
11 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108

The International Educator, a newsletter listing employment opportunities in 200 American and international schools published by:

The International Educator's Institute
P.O. Box 103
West Bridgewater, MA 02379

The International Schools Directory, published annually by the European Council of International Schools and distributed in the United States by:

Peterson's Guides
PO Box 9339
Princeton, NJ 08543-2123

The ISS Directory of Overseas Schools, published by International Schools Services and distributed by:

Peterson's Guides
PO Box 9339
Princeton, NJ 08543-2123